NEWS

Anna’s Fund in need of donations from Winchester residents

July 7, 2025 . 4:00 PM — 2 min read

Anna’s Fund is looking for donations from residents because food insecurity is on the rise. COURTESY PHOTO

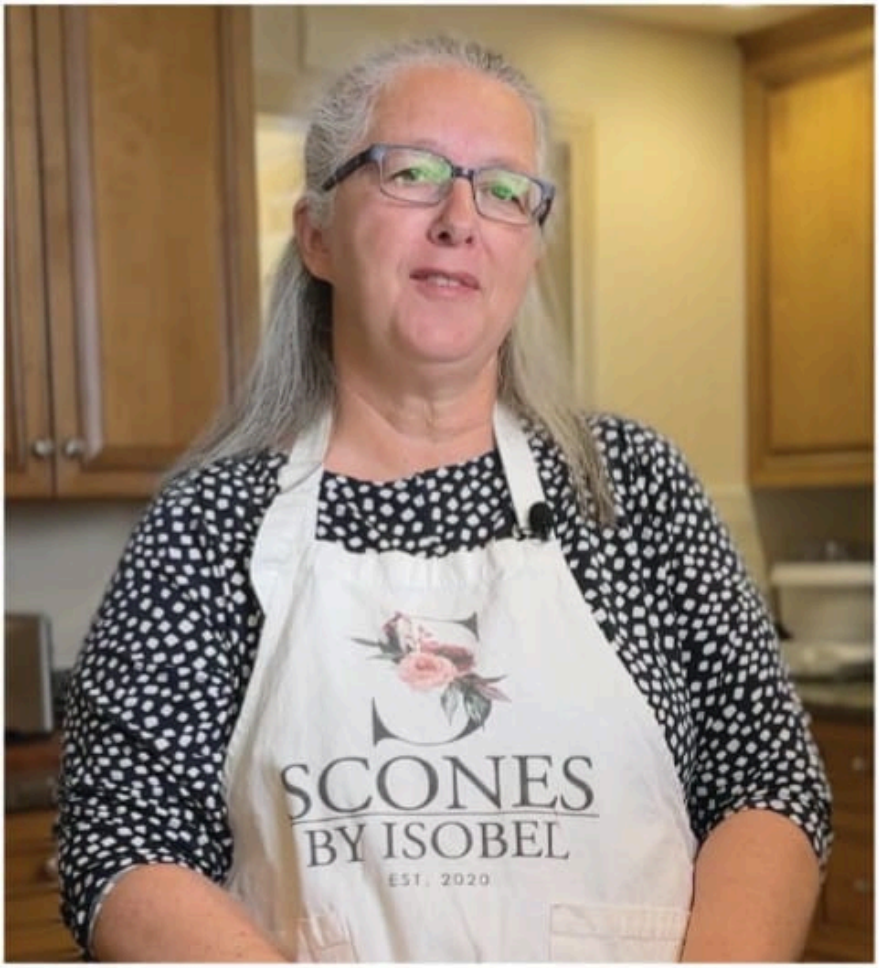
The following was submitted by Sandy Thompson:

Subscribe

When Isobel Magee's pandemic project "Scones by Isobel" was sufficiently established to merit a booth at the Winchester Farmers Market in the summer of 2023, a whole new world opened up for the London, UK transplant who had called Winchester home since 2011.

Like many town residents, she had frequented the market but didn't know much about what went on behind the scenes, or about Anna's Fund, the food insecurity arm of the Winchester Farmers Market.

The Winchester Farmers Market runs like a well-oiled machine, bursting onto the Town Common each year on the second Saturday in June and running for 21 Saturdays until November.



Isobel Magee is one of the vendors at the Winchester Farmers Market. COURTESY PHOTO

Subscribe

Like many other volunteer-led, community-driven enterprises, w customers experience is the cumulation of countless hours of planning,

vendor liaison, logistics troubleshooting and fund raising. Fundraising, for what?

Winchester Farmers Market is the flagship program of the Winchester Farmers Market Community Hub and is on a mission to bridge a rising food insecurity gap.

While some market customers receive SNAP benefits, there are many others who do not qualify for SNAP but who don't have enough for food after paying for housing, transportation and health care. It is those customers who are served by Anna's Fund for Food Assistance, the Farmers Market's food insecurity fund.

Donate today!

Each week customers from Winchester or Woburn who show up with proof of residence can receive $15 in market tokens to buy fresh food. And that's where the fundraising comes in.

Anna's Fund, set up in memory of beloved market supporter Anna LaViolette in 2019, is funded entirely by local businesses and neighbors. With an annual budget of around $30,000, the market anticipates assisting around 90-100 people per week.

This year, as food insecurity in the community has increased, so has demand for support: in just the first two weeks of the market, Anna's Fund distributed more than in the first five markets last year.

"Anna's Fund is in desperate need of contributions," says Fred Yen, market manager and executive director of the Winchester Farmers Market Community Hub. Yen says it has been depleted to the point wher
run out by mid-July. "Normally we receive donations throughout

Subscribe

season from individuals, businesses and faith communities, but we need help now."

Winchester News is a non-profit organization supported by our community. If you appreciate having local Winchester news, please donate to support our work, and subscribe to our free weekly newsletter.

Related

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

Subscribe

NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

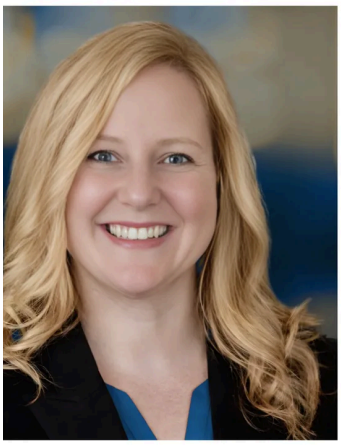
NEWS

Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

March 3, 2026

Latest



NEWS

FEATURES

Subscribe

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

Subscribe

Subscribe to Winchester News

© 2026 Winchester News Group, Inc. Copying and sharing with permission for non-commercial use only.

Subscribe